

We the Printers

The rise of printing and engraving led to the production of ribbons for political campaigns and commemorative events. Simple and straightforward, graphic appeal of the ribbon neatly fit the politics of personal association reflected by all manner of knick-knacks, household items, and specialty merchandise imprinted with a symbol or emblem.

H O P E .



IN HONOR
Of the Founders and Defenders of
AMERICAN
INDEPENDENCE.



ITS THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER O'LONG MAY IT WAVE.
OVER THE LAND OF THE FREE & THE HOME OF THE BRAVE.





Ribbon, William Henry Harrison

Gift of Sara L. Lepman in memory of Dr. Harry Lepman

[View object record </collections/nmah_491890>](/collections/nmah_491890)

We have met the enemy



Sep^r 10

and they are ours.

1813

MAJOR GENERAL

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON



HERO of TIPPECANOE

FORT MEIGS

and

THAMES.





Ribbon, William Henry Harrison

Gift of Sara L. Lepman in memory of Dr. Harry Lepman

[View object record </collections/nmah_502144>](#)



Quilt of political ribbons

Gift of Elizabeth Clair Beal

[View object record </collections/nmah_495861>](#)

Some partisans were content to wear a ribbon. Quilter Abigail Ann Lane and her husband, William Bagley Lane, a Philadelphia engraver, acquired enough Whig and William Henry Harrison ribbons to sleep in. The quilt is composed of three different ribbon designs. The most prevalent ribbon commemorates Harrison's inauguration as president in March 1841 and his death about a month later, a date printed near the bottom of the ribbon that was not part of the original

engraving. The quilt is made of 432 ribbons stitched together and backed with plain white linen. According to family tradition, the Lanes acquired—or were left with—enough overstock ribbons for Mrs. Lane to assemble the quilt.

Hours & Admission

Open every day, except December 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Admission is free and no tickets are required.

Location & Contact

1300 Constitution Ave NW,
Washington, DC 20560 <<https://www.google.com/maps/place/smithsonian+national+museum+of+american+history/@38.8912835,-77.0322449,17z>>

Contact Information </about/contact>

Our mission is to empower people to create a just and compassionate future by exploring, preserving, and sharing the complexity of our past.

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